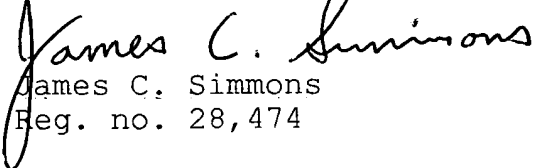


REMARKS

It is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are patentably distinguishable over the art of record, i.e., U.S. patent 6,168,493 cited in an Information Disclosure Statement submitted with the filing of the application and discussed on page 1 of the application. It is accordingly submitted that this application is in condition for allowance, and such is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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